

Homes and neighborhoods, farms, barns and outbuildings, springhouses, stone fences, Main Streets, factories, distilleries, churches, archaeological sites, corner grocery stores and unique roadside architecture all tell the stories of Kentuckians and our shared history. These historic resources are important for keeping the heritage of Kentucky alive and offer viable economic opportunities for Kentucky's future



Wigwam Village, Barren County



300 Washington Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

502-564-7005

502-564-5820 (fax)

www.heritage.ky.gov

Kentucky Heritage Council

State Historic Preservation Office



Vest-Lindsey House, Frankfort

Helping Kentuckians
identify, preserve
and use their
historic resources



Main Street, Bardstown, a participating community of the Kentucky Main Street Program

HERE FOR KENTUCKY

An agency of the Kentucky Commerce Cabinet, the Kentucky Heritage Council is responsible for the identification, protection and preservation of historic buildings and resources, archaeological sites and cultural landscapes throughout the Commonwealth. Our mission is to partner with Kentuckians to strengthen preservation networks so that our historic places are valued, protected and used to enhance the quality and economy of our communities.



Kentucky Archaeological Survey
rock shelter investigation

The Kentucky Heritage Council administers all state and federal historic preservation and incentive programs in Kentucky, including the National Register of Historic Places and federal Section 106 review. We have been a leader in the preservation of military sites, rural heritage and resources, and in supporting research about and preservation of diverse cultures including African American and Native American heritage. We also administer the Kentucky Archaeological Survey and the Kentucky Main Street Program, provide technical assistance and educational programming, coordinate preservation skills training and administer incentive programs such as federal and state historic preservation tax credits.

Kentucky Heritage Council programs

SITE IDENTIFICATION

Manages and maintains a comprehensive inventory of historic sites across the state, which serves as the foundation for all functions and programs of the agency. Program responsibilities include:

- Administer the **National Register of Historic Places** program in Kentucky
- Survey and document** historic and prehistoric sites
- National Historic Landmarks** program
- Kentucky Landmark** certification
- Rural heritage preservation**
- Research and planning, including development of the comprehensive, five-year **Kentucky State Historic Preservation Plan**
- Historic context** research, development and publication
- Military heritage** preservation
- Historic Schools Initiative**
- Provide administrative support for affiliated boards and commissions



Hands-on historic mortar repair workshop

The preservation and adaptive reuse of historic buildings is a proven economic development strategy and key public policy initiative that reinvigorates downtowns and neighborhoods, promotes sustainability and conservation, and contributes to quality of life by preserving Kentucky's unique heritage. The Kentucky Heritage Council works in partnership with other state and federal agencies, local communities, preservation organizations and interested citizens across the state in addressing diverse preservation issues. Following is a list of agency programs and services – please let us know how we can help you!

SITE PROTECTION

Coordinates the federally mandated protection of prehistoric and historic resources listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and the professional archaeology component for the agency, including:

- Kentucky Archaeological Survey**, a partnership of the Heritage Council and University of Kentucky Department of Anthropology
- Federal **environmental review / Section 106** oversight and compliance
- Annual **archaeology conference** celebrating more than 25 years
- Statewide inventory** of prehistoric and historic archaeological sites
- Comprehensive **GIS database**
- Publications and videos
- Project Archaeology** and diverse teacher and public **education outreach**

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SITE DEVELOPMENT

Provides education and training, incentives, and technical and design assistance to encourage protection of and investment in historic places. Program areas include:

- Kentucky Main Street Program**, serving more than 100 communities
- Certified Local Government (CLG) Program**
- Federal and state **historic rehabilitation tax credits** and incentives
- Traditional **building skills and hands-on training programs**
- Technical and architectural **design assistance**
- Biennial **Kentucky Historic Preservation Conference**
- Preservation easements**
- Partner in the annual Ida Lee Willis Memorial Foundation **Historic Preservation Awards**, celebrating 30+ years
- Partner with Preservation Kentucky in the annual **Photo-Essay Competition** open to all schoolchildren, celebrating 10+ years
- Teacher education** and partner in curriculum development

Achievements

- ✓ First in the White House *Preserve America* initiative, with more designated communities, neighborhoods and districts than any state
- ✓ Fourth in the number of listings in the National Register of Historic Places
- ✓ Oldest statewide Main Street program in the nation, with more than \$2 billion invested in Kentucky communities since 1979
- ✓ Database of 80,000 surveyed sites in all 120 counties

AFFILIATED BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

In addition to the 16-member Kentucky Heritage Council appointed by the Governor, affiliated Heritage Council boards and commissions include:

- Kentucky African American Heritage Commission
- Kentucky Native American Heritage Commission
- Kentucky Historic Preservation Review Board
- Kentucky Military Sites Commission
- Kentucky Underground Railroad Advisory Council



Abraham Lincoln Birthplace
National Historic Site



Kentucky is proud to celebrate the bicentennial of the birth of native son Abraham Lincoln throughout 2008 and 2009. Lincoln was born in Hodgenville February 12, 1809 and maintained ties to friends and loved ones in central Kentucky throughout his life. In partnership with the Kentucky Lincoln Bicentennial Commission and the Kentucky Historical Society, with support from the Kentucky Department of Tourism and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, the Heritage Council's signature bicentennial project is the Kentucky Lincoln Heritage Trail, which honors the life and legacy of our 16th president and pays tribute to the Kentucky places and people that influenced him throughout his presidency. For more, visit www.kylincolntrail.com